



January - March 2008



LOUISIANA ENVIRONMENTAL LABORATORY ACCREDITATION PROGRAM (LELAP) UPDATE AND NEWS

LELAP OUTREACH — The LELAP **Accreditation 101** outreach presentation finalized. LELAP is currently accepting requests from laboratories for attendance. Presentation tentatively set for mid June and August, 2008 from selected LDEQ Regional Offices. Course designed to discuss "how to obtain/maintain laboratory accreditation". Added info to follow NLT May15, 2008.

SOLID AND CHEMICAL MATERIALS (SCM) FIELD OF PROFICIENCY TESTING (FOPT) - FYI, EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY SCM PTs are no longer experimental. Details may be found in the TNI website http://www.nelac-institute.org/content.aspx?page_id=22&club_id=869462&module_id=17098

LELAP POLICY— LELAP has adopted several new policies affecting accredited laboratories. These policies will be incorporated in future applicable LELAP SOPs. Gist of applicable new policies follows:

Policy # 2 Method Version — Effective July 1, 2008, LELAP will only accredit analytical method versions specifically requested in the laboratory's LELAP/NELAP application.

Policy # 3 LELAP Laboratory Codes— NLT July 1, 2008, LELAP will assign individual identification codes to each LELAP laboratory. Codes shall be used to identify each LELAP lab when receiving/reporting proficiency test or other results.

Policy # 4 Electronic Documents—Effective immediately, LELAP will only accept electronic documents when they are followed by signed paper documents. Electronic documents will be used for initial coordination and staffing only.

OTHER NEWS— Annual LELAP invoices and requests for renewal applications were mailed to regulated laboratories on/about April 30, 2008. Deadline for return of renewal application packages from LELAP Labs is **May 30, 2008**. Both AirGas Gases and Scott Specialty Gases were audited in **March 2008**. It is anticipated that both will be designated as accredited LELAP stack test PT providers upon approval of their Corrective Action Plans in May 2008. Paul Bergeron, LELAP Supervisor, will server as TNI Audit Team Leader for the Evaluation of the Florida TNI Accreditation Body in July, 2008.

THE LOUISIANA WATER ENVIRONMENTAL ASSOCIATION (LWEA) MEETING LOCATION HAS MOVED

The Association's Spring Technical Conference set for April 23- 24, will be held at the Lamar-Dixon Center in Gonzales, Louisiana. Conference will offer sessions on relevant laboratory, regulatory, technical and accreditation issues. In addition, a special LELAP update will be provided, plus an Ethics/Data Integrity Training Course. For further information contact Dugan Sabins at dugan.sabins@la.gov or 225-219-3553.

LABORATORY SERVICE DIVISION (LSD) RE-ACCREDITATION

TNI Accreditation Assessment of the LDEQ Lab by Florida's NELAP Accrediting Body is on track for summer 2008. LDEQ Radiation Lab will undergo an official TNI accreditation audit for the first time in the history of the Department.

LABORATORY SERVICES DIVISION STAFF UPDATE

On March 15, 2008 Karen Varnado retired from LDEQ's LELAP Section and on January 31, 2008 Connie Payne, General Chemistry Section, resigned from State service.

QUARTERLY ANALYTICAL UPDATE

The LDEQ laboratory has conducted 11,889 analyses in the 1st quarter of CY2008. Analyses were performed in the areas of General Chemistry, General Organics, Air Organics, Metals, and Radiation.

CLEAN METALS LABORATORY UPDATE

LDEQ Clean Metals Laboratory has been awarded "Certification Class level of 10,000". LDEQ is working to lower this classification. Clean Metal analyses will commence on a test basis on June 1, 2008.

METHODS INNOVATION RULE UPDATE

The LDEQ Methods Innovation Rule will be proposed on April 20, 2008 and published in the Louisiana Register immediately thereafter. The Public Hearing will be held on May 27, 2008 at 1:30 pm at LDEQ Headquarters in the Oliver Pollock Room, (C-111). The rule will be finalized NLT June 20, 2008

MINIMUM QUANTIFICATION LIMITS (MQLs)

In February 2008, EPA Region 6 lowered the MQLs for some LDEQ NPDES permits. New limits are being researched. Permits Division, OES, LDEQ is developing guidance and will provide updated information as soon as possible.

We solicit questions, comments, and recommendations for newsletter. Please send to deqlaboratory@la.gov or call 225-219-9800. [Click here](#) for more information



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